REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 9 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 US.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over Boost et al ('425 B1) in view of Singh et al ('988 B1). Claims 6-8, 10-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and Claim 21 is allowed.

As the Examiner states, the difference between the instant invention and the Boost et al patent is the neural network and fuzzy logic network that is used for obtaining a predicted capacity of the VRLA battery. Singh et al, however, discloses the use of an intelligent system to monitor the health of an electrochemical device, such as a VRLA battery. The Examiner further states that it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the Boost et al and Singh et al patents to produce the disclosed invention.

The Examiner has stated that Claim 10 would be allowed if rewritten as an independent claim in combination with the base claim. Claim 10 relates to the method of teaching the network and is not found in the Singh patent. Claim 1 has been amended to include the training of the neural network by a novel method not taught in Singh et al.

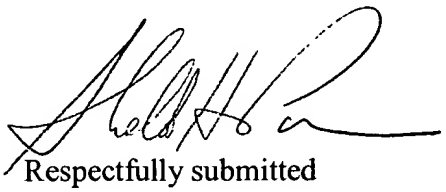
As Claim 1 would, in its current, amended, form, be patentable, it is submitted that dependent claim 2-5 and 9 are also patentable as the claims further define the method taught in Claim 1.

The independent claims 1 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boost et al in view of Singh et al. It is stated that the Boost et al discloses the battery monitor, centralized system, and an alarm and that it would be obvious to add the intelligent system of Singh et al to achieve the instant invention. It is respectfully submitted that although the Singh et al patent teaches the use of fuzzy logic and a neural net, the Singh et al patent does not disclose the same parameters to teach the Singh et al neural net. Both independent Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to include further definition of the battery monitor and neural

network, including the manner in which the neural network is trained. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that the amendments to Claims 1 and 16 overcome Examiner's rejection and that both independent Claims are in allowable condition.

Dependent claim 2 and 17 relating to the voltage and current sensing means; claims 3 and 18 which relate to the serial port, claims 4-5 and 19-20 which relate to the real time clock and claim 9 which refers to a repeated discharge test, have been rejected on Boost et al. It is respectfully submitted that the above identified claims are currently dependent upon what is submitted as being a novel, and allowable, independent claim and are, when combined with their respective independent claim, novel. None of the foregoing features to the disclosed system are being claimed as novel in of themselves, but rather are being claimed novel when used in conjunction with the system as taught in the independent claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the case is in condition for prosecution.



Respectfully submitted

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